Renewal of duty entitlement pass book scheme

4083. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to impose a price cap of Rs. 750 per piece on silk garments for export for the purpose of tax benefits of 15 per cent under the Duty Entitlement Pass Book Scheme; and

(b) if so, whether this has been made in responce to a demand by silk exporters for renewal of DEPB scheme to silk embroidered garments ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYKUMAR):(a)On 1-1-2001 a value cap of Rs. 750 per piece was imposed on silk garments for export for which the DEPB rate had been fixed at 15% w.e.f. 1-4-2000. W.e.f. 1-4-2001. the DEPB has been refixed at 14% with a value cap of Rs. 750 per piece.

(b) The assessment and fixation of DEPB benefits has been made by Govt, on the basis of the objectives of the Scheme, duties imposed on imported raw material and the data available to it from exporters, customs & other sources regarding prices.

Reduction in the new duty drawback rates

4084. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLA1 : WilJ the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the garment industry is under severe competition from neighbouring countries and facing decline in exports due to slow-down in the US and Japan economies;

(b) whether the textile and garment exporters have sought immediate review of the reduction in the new duty drawback rates; and

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR) : (a) Adeclining trend is noticed in the garment exports since the beginning of year 2001, which is mainly due to slowdown in the economies of some of the major importing countries such as US.